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For more information:
Robert Harper
Washington Emergency Management Division
(253) 512-7005
r.harper@emd.wa.gov

Hurricane disaster aid registrations continue to rise in Washington ; state hotline available for disaster aid information

CAMP MURRAY, WA – Federal disaster aid registrations of Hurricane Katrina and Rita evacuees with Washington state addresses continued to rise in the latest Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) report.

Evacuees and those assisting them also are reminded that they should continue to get updated information about social services and disaster aid by calling the toll-free Washington State Clearinghouse hotline 1-800-941-2930. Volunteers staff the hotline from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. seven days a week.

FEMA's report of Oct. 23 listed 1,793 evacuee registrations with Washington addresses, compared to 1,759 in the agency's Oct. 16 report. The latest registration number represents between 4,482 and 5,379 individual evacuees since registration typically involves family groups of two or three persons.

Hurricane evacuees are reported in 35 or 39 Washington counties with the highest concentration in the Puget Sound region. King County has the largest number of evacuee registrations with 776, followed by Pierce County, 303; Snohomish County 143; Kitsap County, 86; Clark County, 83; and Spokane County, 79.

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